To: Public Service Commission of South Carolina  
Att: Docketing Dept.  
P.O. Drawer 11649  
Columbia, SC  29211

From: Shirley Mears  
Print Name

Date: 3-12-2010

Subject: Rate Increase

I am outraged at the timing of SCE&G's request for an almost 10% rate hike at a time of economic struggle unparalleled since the depression. SCE&G has an obligation to all the people not just stockholders.

I am voicing my opposition to this pending rate increase by writing this letter of protest. Please reference Docket No. 2009-489-E.

Signed: Shirley Mears  
Date: 3/16/10

The Office of Regulatory Staff will accept letters of protest through March 22nd, 2010.

Facts you should know:

- SCE&G was approved for a 2.5 percent rate increase annually for the next decade, following a 4.4 percent rate hike in 2008.

- New rate hike will boost residential power bills for the average SCE&G customer by about $140 a year by July 2011.

- For Duke Power customers, the cost of 1,000 kilowatt hours is about $93, following its recent rate increase. For SCE&G, the same level of power costs $118. The rate boost, if granted, would put it at $130.

- SCE&G has higher rates than other investor-owned utilities, as well as publicly owned Santee-Cooper.

Ms. Shirley Mears  
1346 Victory St.  
Columbia, SC  29204-2741